

WOMAN DEFENDS REDS IN SENATE

John Reed's Wife Says Anarchists, Not Bolsheviks, Nationalized Women

SHOT AS A RESULT

Eject Spectators Who Start Commotion—Witness Admits Movement Unfit for U. S.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Spectators were cleared from the hearing room of the Senate propaganda investigating committee because of a commotion which broke out when the testimony of Louise Bryant, wife of John Reed, an American writer recently returned from Russia, who the witness said, was employed in the propaganda department of the Bolshevik government.

Trouble started from the moment Miss Bryant, as she is known, took the stand and began answering questions about her religious beliefs and understanding of the nature of an oath. Manifestations of interest among the spectators grew as she was examined about her participation in women's party demonstrations, including the attempt to burn President Wilson's portrait before the White House, and about the speech she made at a recent Washington meeting that was largely responsible for the committee's investigation.

As the spectators were being put out, Chairman Overman began to ask the witness about her husband's opinions. Miss Bryant's answer brought from Senator Nelson the admonition: "Don't be so impertinent."

A section of the audience applauded again and the clearing-out process proceeded more rapidly.

Comrade of Bolsheviks

When the room was cleared Senator King picked up a book written by Miss Bryant and asked: "Were you a member of the International Revolutionary Propaganda, with which Boris Reinstein, of Buffalo, was associated?"

"Yes," replied the witness.

Miss Bryant said she had a Bolshevik passport when she went to Stockholm from Russia, and admitted she was a comrade of the Bolsheviks. She explained that "everybody is called comrade."

Would the Bolsheviks call a representative of the American Government comrade? asked Senator Nelson.

"Oh, no," replied the witness. "Because Mr. Reed was not popular. He called Mr. Reinstein (American Red Cross official) comrade, though. He was regarded as a real American, in sympathy with the revolution and the real representative of America."

The witness at that point said she wanted to get into the record that the Soviet government was not responsible for the nationalization of women.

"The anarchists did that and they were shot," said the witness.

She said it was true she left Russia on a Bolshevik passport as an official courier of the Bolsheviks.

The questioning turned back to the nationalization of women, and the witness said Jerome Davis, head of the Y. M. C. A. in Russia, would support her contention. She said Davis had made a statement to this effect in the New York Call.

"That's a Socialist paper, isn't it?" asked Senator Nelson.

"Yes," replied Miss Bryant.

Miss Bryant said the propaganda with which her husband had to do was aimed at starting a revolution in Russia.

Questioning about her present knowledge of affairs in Russia, the witness said she had secured her information from the man in charge of the Finnish information bureau, a Mr. Nourteva, and also from Mr. Reinstein in New York. Nourteva had told her, she said, that "if there is any Bolshevik propaganda in the United States I am it."

Miss Bryant mentioned in Russia she met among other persons Miss Beatie Beatty, a correspondent of the New York Call, and Arno Dorsch-Fleuret, of the New York World.

"Who brought information to Colonel Robbins, of the Red Cross?" asked Major Humes.

"Miss Beatie, myself, Reinstein, Mr. Williams and my husband, John Reed, all brought him information," she said.

Bolsheviks Were Shot

The witness said when she was passing through Finland the White Guard came through the train, took some Bolsheviks out and shot them.

"Why didn't they shoot you; you had a Bolshevik passport and papers with Bolshevik seals on them?" asked Major Humes.

"I showed them my American passport."

"You had passports describing you as an internationalist?"

"Yes, everybody who ever believes in the League of Nations is an internationalist," replied Miss Bryant.

Senator Wolcott, of Delaware, asked: "You say your husband, Boris Reinstein, and Albert R. Williams were engaged in propaganda in Petrograd?"

"Yes, for the purpose of influencing the Germans on the front," interrupted the witness.

"Was part to be accomplished by attacking the United States and President Wilson?"

"No."

Asked Help of United States

"Well, here's a paper which contains an attack on the United States and President Wilson."

"They had nothing to do with that," the witness said. "My husband can tell you more about it than I can. He is here, why don't you call him?"

Miss Bryant said that before signing the treaty of Brest-Litovsk the Russians

had sent a message to the United States saying they would not sign if they could get help.

"Colonel Robbins has seen the message and so have I," the witness added.

Miss Bryant said it was not true that the Soviet Government was sympathetic with the German desire to believe they had been fighting them all the time.

Senator Overman here sent word to the crowd waiting in the corridor outside the committee room that they could return if they would not engage in further demonstrations. Asked as to freedom of the press in Russia, the witness said anybody could write what they pleased under the Bolshevik rule.

"What was the purpose of your meeting in a Washington theatre?" asked Senator Overman.

"To protest against intervention in Russia."

"Are you anxious to have the Bolsheviks retain the government in Russia?" asked Senator Nelson.

"Well," said the witness, "if the people of Russia want Bolshevikism they ought to have it."

Miss Bryant said she did not believe in the overthrow of government by force of arms and she didn't believe anything like that would happen here unless there was much oppression.

EXPLAINS TIME LIMIT FOR INCOME TAXES

Roper Details Conditions for Filing Returns After March 15

Washington, Feb. 21.—Daniel C. Roper, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, has issued a detailed explanation of the conditions under which an extension of the time beyond March 15 will be granted for filing income tax returns.

"The system is designed to meet only urgent cases and will permit the filing on March 15 of an estimate of income in case the exact amount is not then available. Payment of one-fourth of the amount of the tax received on the basis of the estimated income must accompany the estimate, with the understanding that adjustments are to be made within forty-five days after March 15 on the basis of the exact income."

The explanation by Mr. Roper follows: "Corporation and, in urgent cases, individuals who are unable to complete their returns and file them by March 15 will be permitted to file with collectors of internal revenue not later than March 15 an estimate of the tax due on the basis of an estimate of income, one-fourth of such estimated tax. Upon compliance with this requirement the collector is authorized to agree to accept the return and file it at any time within forty-five days after March 15 the complete tax return."

"It will thus be seen that for all practical purposes a procedure has been prescribed by which an extension of time will be allowed in which to work out the details of the tax return and file it with the collector. The banks on which the corporations will make their returns will embody a special remittance form for this purpose, which may be detached from the main body of the form and sent to the collector with the remittance and held by the collector until the complete return is filed."

"Although return forms for individuals will not embody this special detachable remittance form, collectors will be provided with a supply of separate forms which will be furnished to taxpayers upon request and with which they may be able to obtain the privilege accorded corporations."

"The advantages of the plan are: (1) The taxpayer is relieved of the interference of one-half of 1 per cent per month that would attach to the payment of an extension of time for filing the return and paying the tax. (2) The government will receive on March 15 the payment of approximately the aggregate amount of taxes due on the date with a view to the collection of which the redemption of outstanding obligations of the government has been scheduled, and (3) by spreading over a period of two months from March 1 the receipt and examination of the most complex returns the machinery of the internal revenue service is relieved from the tremendous strain of handling all of the returns during the brief period from now until March 15."

FALLS DEAD AT SHORE

Millionaire's Will Directs Ashes Be Scattered From Pier

Atlantic City, N. J., Feb. 21.—Tobias Lindenberg, fifty-five, retired New York business man, sank to the boardwalk at Virginia avenue last night unconscious and expired in a few minutes. Death was due to a stroke of apoplexy.

Papers found on his person showed that he had locked up in the Breakers Hotel safe papers representing in value more than a million of dollars in securities, and a will in which he asked that his body be cremated and his ashes scattered over the sea from the end of the Steel Pier. He leaves his wealth to nephews and nieces of New York and names one nephew as executor without bond. He was alone here.

"Dr." Repealer to Be Considered

Washington, Feb. 21.—A bill for the repeal of the wartime prohibition law, which became effective July 1, introduced by Representative Gailley, of Massachusetts, will be considered by the House Agricultural Committee within the next few days, members of the committee say. There is little or no prospect of action on the measure at this session of Congress.

PROBE "ANTHRAX" DEATH

Infection From Fur Collar One of Three Explanations Offered

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 21.—Army authorities at the Marsh Run quarantine station, New Cumberland, are investigating the death of Lieutenant David H. Crockett, who died in the army service depot hospital. Three different explanations of his death are given—that he died of lockjaw; that his death was due to injuries received in a struggle with a discharged negro soldier, and, according to a statement of the State Department of Health, that his death was due to anthrax.

Army officers at the camp believe that infection from a hair or fur collar of his overcoat led to his death.

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50 MILLION FOR BELGIAN CREDIT

Arrangement Is Made to Facilitate Exports for Reconstruction

BANKS TO AID MEXICO

Proposal to Lend Republic \$370,000,000 on Security of Customs Receipts

New York, Feb. 21.—Formal announcement of the completion of negotiations by a syndicate of bankers headed by the Guaranty Trust Company, J. P. Morgan & Co., the National Bank of Commerce and the National City Bank for the establishment of a commercial export credit in New York of \$50,000,000 for a consortium of Belgian banks has been made. This is the first important credit arranged in the United States with a foreign nation since the country's entrance into the war, and it is expected to be followed shortly by several other and more important ones.

About seventy Belgian banks with an aggregate of reserves in excess of \$150,000,000 are in the arrangement. They include the Banque Nationale de Belgique and the Societe Generale de Belgique. Under this credit the Banque Nationale de Belgique, acting for the consortium, is to draw drafts from time to time on the syndicate participants. Every series of original drafts will be drawn at ninety days' sight with privilege of three renewals of ninety days; they are so created as to be sold in the open discount market, and the proceeds are to be used to pay for the syndicate participants for acceptance.

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Would Re-establish Industry

The proceeds of the credit will be used only to provide funds in America to purchase American supplies for re-establishing industrial operations in Belgium and, according to the statement issued by the syndicate, the agreement is so worded as to prohibit the use of the credit for other than industrial and commercial uses. Obligations of the Belgian industrial interests, for whose benefit the credit is being arranged, will be held in Belgium as security for payment of the drafts.

The credit is similar, if not almost identical, to five previous credits granted to French banks just prior to this country's entrance into the war. Four of the credits were arranged by Bonbright & Co. with a large French munition concern. Each was for \$15,000,000. Still another was arranged by a syndicate of banks headed by the Bankers' Trust Company for \$50,000,000. All of them have been paid off within the last few months.

American bankers are near an agreement with the Mexican government whereby that country will be advanced financial aid. One of the biggest handicaps in the Mexican situation has been the unreasonable attitude of the Mexican government on foreign-owned property under its jurisdiction and the abandonment of the confiscatory tax scheme in the case of the oil fields.

One suggestion heard in banking circles is that banking interests in the United States arranged to refund the \$275,000,000 the new money to be in the form of bonds which would be a direct lien on Mexican customs receipts and supervised by a joint committee of American and Mexican representatives. Both export and import duties would be collected by the joint agency, which would retain control of the funds, issuing certificates in payment of duties.

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LA FOLLETTE IN HEATED DEFENSE OF HIS LOYALTY

Wisconsin Solon, Cleared by Senate, Declares He Has Sought to Preserve "Purity of Democracy"—Won't Permit Further "Aspersions"

Washington, Feb. 21.—Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, vigorously defended his loyalty in the course of a long address last night in the Senate on what he pictured as causes for popular unrest in the United States. The Senator declared he would no longer permit aspersions on his loyalty, and declared that his sole aim was to preserve pure democracy in this country.

"I will no longer permit any man to asperse my loyalty to this government," shouted Senator La Follette.

"Continuing," the Wisconsin Senator said he was seeking to preserve "the purity of American democracy."

"So long as your government is that kind of a government," he said, "you need not fear the proselyte of any government on earth coming in here to overturn it. Do not intimate that I am here seeking to overthrow democracy. I have done as much as you or any other man living in this country to preserve democracy in the United States and to keep it clean and to make it responsible for the high cost of living and consequent unrest among the people. He also charged that the administration had failed to enforce the Sherman anti-trust law.

Senator Underwood, of Alabama, in charge of the appropriation measure, made a public reply. He declared that Congress had always been responsive to the will of the people and said there was no anarchistic sentiment in the United States "no matter what the Wisconsin Senator may dream."

Issue with Senator Underwood that Congress had been responsive to the will of the people. Promising another speech before Congress adjourns on "freedom of speech and democracy," Senator La Follette asked:

"Are you going to investigate every little meeting that complains that something is wrong?"

"Are you going to frame a statute to give the people that protest that everything isn't just right?"

This was the first public reference the Wisconsin Senator had made to his loyalty since the Senate several weeks ago dismissed the charges brought by the Minnesota public safety commission as the result of his speech in St. Paul two years ago.

Speaking in favor of increasing salaries carried in the legislative, judicial and executive appropriation bill before the Senate, Senator La Follette attacked big business interests and especially most strikingly those having largely responsible for the high cost of living and consequent unrest among the people. He also charged that the administration had failed to enforce the Sherman anti-trust law.

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URGES KAISER'S GUILT BE FIXED

Representative Darrow Backs Inquiry Into Atrocities of War

FOR PERSONAL BLAME

Resolution Introduced at Request of Women of Philadelphia

Washington, Feb. 21.—An inquiry into the atrocities committed by the Germans during the war and an investigation for the purpose of establishing the personal responsibility of the former Kaiser and the military chiefs of Germany for causing the war and for all acts of violence committed by the Hun during the war was asked for by Representative Darrow, of Philadelphia. The resolution was introduced at the request of the women of Philadelphia.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs at a meeting yesterday took up Representative Darrow's bill requesting the American delegates to the Paris Peace Conference to join with the delegates of Great Britain, France and Italy in pressing action by the conference holding the former Kaiser and his war lords personally responsible for the atrocities committed by the Germans in Belgium and northern France.

The committee meeting was executive, and Representative Darrow was the only witness. A second meeting to consider the resolution has been called for today, and at that meeting Representative Flood, of Virginia, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, will announce whether the requested public hearing and investigation will be held.

"Many army officers, not only Americans, but of the armies of our allies, have written and asked that they be allowed to appear before some committee of Congress and tell of the atrocities they witnessed," said Mr. Darrow after the meeting.

"I believe that fixing the personal responsibility for the war is